

SCHEDULE

8:45-9:15 Registration

9:15 – 9:50 Worship with Rev. Will

Session Schedule

MORNING SESSION I 10:00-11:50 A.M.

Local Church Finance

I am the New Youth Leader—What Now?

Local Church Trustees

Relief to Recovery

How to be a Strategically Small Church

Leadership in a Changing & Challenging Day

ERT Team on the Ground-You Can too

MORNING SESSION II 10:00-10:50 A.M.

How does Your Church Communicate?

Trusted con Confianza: A Look

at the New RTC Safety Policy

Dive into the Sparkle!

Does Your Church Have An Emergency Plan?

Caring for Congregation & Community

MORNING SESSION III 11:00-11:50 A.M.

Prayer as a Vocation for the Church

Lay Servant Ministry

Local Church Lay Leader

Out of the Box Engaging in Theological Play

(Children)

LUNCH - SPEAKER-12:00-1:30

Rev. Karen Horan

AFTERNOON SESSION IV 1:45-3:30 A.M.

PPR/SPRC

Expert's Eye View of the Disaster & Response to

Hurricane Harvey

AFTERNOON SESSION V 1:45 P.M.-2:35 P.M.

Methodism: Today's Winds & Yesterday's Anchors

Does Your Church Have An Emergency Plan?

Local Church Lay Leader

Trusted con Confianza:

A Look at the New RTC Safety Policy

ERT Team on the Ground-You Can too

AFTERNOON SESSION VI 2:45 P.M.-3:30 P.M.

Prayer as a Vocation for the Church

Lay Servant Ministry

Out of the Box Engaging in Theological Play

(Children)

Caring for Congregation & Community

LOCAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP

LOCAL CHURCH FINANCE – A look at how to account for & plan to handle the annual budget cycle in our congregations. The how & why of “apportionments”; planning for facility maintenance, risk management & week to week cash handling/banking relationship & auditing. *For the past 16 years, **Rev. Tom Deviney**, has served as the lead pastor of Bethany UMC, the largest UM congregation in Austin, during which time has led the congregation in several capital campaigns & building projects. A native of Corpus Christi, Tom has previously served Seguin FUMC, Lutie Watkins UMC in Llano, & South Bluff in Corpus Christi. He is a clergy member of the Rio Texas Conference Finance Table & brings a wealth of experience to equip local church finance committee members*

LOCAL CHURCH TRUSTEES—Effective Trustees are Christian stewards of the property God has entrusted to the congregation. Effective trustees supervise & maintain the property of the congregation to ensure that disciple-making ministries of the congregation are effective & that local legal requirements related to the property are satisfied. **Rev. John Saint** is the pastor at FUMC San Saba. His wife Alexis is a psychotherapist. They have three children, a college freshman, a senior in high school, & a freshman in high school. John is the chair of the West District Trustees & a member of the Rio Texas Board of Trustees.

SPPRC/PPRC—The SPPRC/PPRC committee leads the congregation to encourage, strengthen, nurture, support, & respect the pastor(s), staff & their families. It helps the staff set priorities that strengthen the congregation's total ministry. **Rev. John Wright** is currently District Superintendent of the Hill Country District.

BEING ON THE LAY SERVANT TEAM
– Come hear about the opportunities to serve the mission of the church through being a Lay Servant, a Certified Lay Servant or Certified Lay Speaker. How these have

evolved from previous Lay Speaker ministry & discussion of how lay servants can fill missional opportunities within your area. **Scott Maderer** serves as the Lay Leader at Lakehills UMC. He is currently the District Lay Servant Team Director

LOCAL CHURCH LAY LEADER— The Lay Leader promotes the role of laity as we work to fulfill our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Local Church leaders have huge potential for increased vitality throughout The United Methodist Church. **Glenn Andrew** is District Lay Leader for the Hill Country District. Trained as an electrical engineer at UT-Austin, Glenn's professional career has spanned 30 years in the defense industry. Glenn also served as business manager for a large UM congregation in Windmere, FL. Married to his high school sweetheart, Leta for 47 years, they have two grown children, son, Clay serves as senior pastor of a Methodist church in Oregon & , Ambra Starr, a registered nurse educator at Peterson Hospital in Kerrville. They have two granddaughters—one here & one in Oregon. For the last 10 years, Glenn has been a member of Kerrville FUMC, where he has served on numerous committee, as well as being the delegate to annual conference.

I AM THE NEW YOUTH LEADER- WHAT NOW If you have been in youth ministry or just starting, **this session is for you.** Are you stuck in the same old routine of Youth ministry? Are you in need of a team to support, pray & do this crazy thing called youth ministry together? This session will help you with a strategy based on spiritual habits, curriculum, websites to get you started, & create a team of other youth workers to connect with. Presenters are Christie Wynn & Bonnie Bevers. Both are youth leaders in small churches in the Hill Country District. **Bonnie Bevers** has been the Director of Student Ministries at Bandera UMC since August of 2015. Before coming to BUMC, Bonnie worked with youth programs at United Methodist Churches in Austin, Texas & Charleston, West Virginia.

Bonnie has a very solid background & degrees in Criminology & Criminal Justice. She has also completed her Certification in Ministry with Youth at Perkin's School of Theology in January 2018. **Christie Wynn**—I have a passion & heart for Youth Ministry. I have been in Youth Ministry for nearly a decade, first serving in the Houston area & now in Kerrville & Utopia. As Youth Workers we get to share & teach about God's love & mercy both through games & laughter & through conversations, studies & worship. Join me & Bonnie at *Equipping the Saints* to talk more about **what Youth Ministry is & can be at your local church.**

DIVE INTO THE SPARKLE! The sacraments are like a brilliant diamond with many sparkling facets. Too often, because of poor execution & lack of understanding, we miss the powerful means of grace they afford us. John Wesley received holy communion on average about two & a half times per week. Hopefully, this session will give you a new appreciation of these acts which have been central to Christian worship, as we dive into their brilliance. **Rev. John Wright** is the District Superintendent of the Hill Country District. He came to the District from First United Methodist in Austin.

PRAYER AS A VOCATION FOR THE CHURCH Acts 2 tells us that “they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching & fellowship, to the breaking of the bread & to the prayers.” To be baptized is to receive the God-given vocation to pray. In this workshop, we will explore the Church’s duty to pray, including discussions about why we should pray & how to pray. **Rev. Celia Halfacre** is pastor at Lakehills United Methodist Church & a long time member of the Order of St. Luke. She is currently continuing her study of the ways liturgy forms congregations in the doctoral program at Perkins School of Theology.

METHODISM: TODAY’S WINDS & YESTERDAY’S ANCHORS What touchstones have guided The United Methodist Church in the past & can serve to chart its course in the future? **Bishop Dan Solomon** was elected to the episcopacy in 1988 while serving as senior pastor of First UMC in Corpus Christi, having previously served St. John’s UMC in Corpus Christi & Travis Park UMC in San Antonio & as Kerrville District Superintendent. He was widely recognized as one of United Methodism’s most

effective bishops during his tenure. We are blessed to have him present his perspective on the course of our denomination at this critical point in its history. **Bishop Solomon & his wife Marcia** now live near Burnet & worship regularly at Marble Falls FUMC.

HOW DOES YOUR CHURCH COMMUNICATE? Are you a professional church communicator, a communications volunteer, a member of a church communications committee, a pastor, or just someone who wants to know more about the theory & technology of church communications? Join **Pastor Will Rice** for this 45-minute workshop that will cover some of the essential components of quality church communications strategy. The main focus will be on cutting through the clutter of too much information & successfully communicating in ways that help the overall mission of the church. **Rev. Will Rice** is the Director of Communications & Media Support for the Rio Texas Conference. His passion is helping churches leverage technology to reach their communities. Will is the author of the blog pastorwill.net which features information & advice for churches on topics like websites, live streaming, audio, video, & social media.

IS YOUR CHURCH PREPARED? – Ben Patterson works with the Texas Division of Emergency Management within the Texas Department of Public Safety. He will share with the group the areas of vulnerability in an emergency situation. He is helping form an emergency preparedness plan for FUMC Austin & will share how you can begin this process in your local church. Due to the recent emergency situation in Sulphur Springs, TX, he will help you understand why your church needs a plan & how to begin to create a plan, just for your church. **Ben Patterson** is a member of FUMC in Austin. He is an ERT & Chainsaw approved, & has been helping in the Coastal Bend area of the Hurricane Harvey disaster area in several ways. He is the Capital District Volunteers in Mission Coordinator as well.

TRUSTED CON CONFIANZA: A LOOK AT THE NEW RIO TEXAS CONFERENCE SAFETY POLICY— Come learn more about the new Rio Texas Conference safety policy. This session will be an introduction to the new Rio Texas Conference safety policy & certification process.

Hear about resources available for this work & identify next steps for you in your ministry.

Rev. Dr. Tanya Marie Eustace Campen is an ordained deacon & currently serves as the Director of Intergenerational Discipleship for the Rio Texas Conference. Tanya holds a doctorate of philosophy in Christian education & congregational studies from Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary. She has 20 years of experience in the local church & two years at Discipleship Ministries, as the Director of Children & Intergenerational Ministries.

OUT OF THE BOX ENGAGING IN THEOLOGICAL PLAY

Join us as we look at the art of storytelling & object lessons to engage children of all ages! **Speaking of objects, bring one to our session & we'll explore its connection to God & our faith.**

Presented by **Lori Balensiefen & Bethany Graham**. **Bethany Graham** is an ordained Deacon in the Rio Texas Conference. She found her way to the hill country as quickly as she could after graduating from Perkins & being commissioned in the North Texas Conference. Through thirteen years of youth ministry, she has grown to love family faith formation more & more & currently serves as Children & Family Minister at North Shore UMC in Canyon Lake. She loves children of all ages & is passionate about parents & grandparents being the faith formers of their families! **Lori Balensiefen** has worked in early childhood & elementary education for the last 20 years & enjoys spending time with kids of all ages. A recent graduate of United Theological Seminary, Lori is a deacon candidate in the United Methodist Church & currently serves as Pastoral Administrator at FUMC Boerne. Her ministry is to those seeking restoration of their spiritual & emotional health.

EXPERT'S EYE VIEW: HURRICANE

HARVEY - This session will talk about the disaster from Hurricane Harvey, but particularly the responses of the churches & non-profits; such as the things they did well, things they did but should not have done, ways to prepare churches for disaster (both as local churches affected & not affected), how we can better structure our preparedness in disaster & mission at the district level, & what the needs will be from now on. **Anna Tangredi** was for

about a decade the Volunteer Agency Liaison (VAL) for the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) within the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS). In that capacity she was the state's (& by extension, the FEMA) connection to churches & non-profits. In "peacetime", Anna, who lives in Austin, is a member of the Central Texas Conference's Emergency Response Team (different from Early Response Team).

DISASTER RESPONSE: RELIEF TO LONG-TERM RECOVERY

— Transitioning from relief to recovery can be daunting as roles evolve & resources ebb & flow. Explore similarities & differences between relief & recovery, providing leadership in developing recovery coalitions, & ways to resource individuals & families. Additionally, recovery of many individuals & families is often dependent upon a well-functioning group effort. This workshop will explore ways you might participate in the development of this vital group. **Nikki Leaverton** serves as Disaster Recovery Director & began this full-time work in mid-October. As Disaster Recovery Director she will lead the overall operational efforts of recovery from Hurricane Harvey in the Rio Texas Conference. This involves oversight of services in the long-term recovery field through case management & construction management work. The Disaster Recovery Director will partner with the Disaster Recovery Asset Manager in the deployment of volunteers. Nikki comes with ten years of experience in UMCOR disaster long-term recovery processes. She also served as a consultant & trainer for UMCOR assisting various conferences in their disaster response & long-term recovery work.

LEADERSHIP IN A CHANGING & CHALLENGING DAY

— Leadership back in the day used to have as its goal keeping both churches & pastors happy. This day is different, & we need a different kind of leader. How do we lead what is not clear? Can we still be happy? Come & share part of the leadership road into God's good future. Led by Rev. Laura Merrill & Rev. Diana Phillips. **Rev. Laura Merrill**, is the Assistant to the Bishop, RTC., Rev. Merrill joined the Mission Vitality Center after six years as district superintendent. She served with the El Valle, McAllen, & Southern Districts, before, during, & after conference unification. Before that, she served six years as

Senior Pastor at Wimberley United Methodist Church. "My time as a district superintendent taught me that clergy excellence is essential to developing vital, vibrant congregations that make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world," said Merrill. "We need the next generation of gifted clergy who are formed in the gospel & whose hearts lead them into the world. Identifying, recruiting, & training these servants will be a central task as we continue to live into our vision as a bold, new conference. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve with our bishop in this work," **Rev.**

Diana Phillips is the Director of Connectional Ministries & serves as a steward of the vision of the conference; leads the process of continual transformation; & ensures the connection between the local churches, districts, annual conference & general church. **Rev. Phillips** served as Senior Pastor at Colonial Hills United Methodist Church, San Antonio. Prior to her latest appointment, she served as an associate at Bulverde UMC, Gruene UMC, & First UMC Seguin. She currently serves as chair of the Vitalizing Congregation Vision Team & is a member of the Uniting Table.

CARING FOR THE CONGREGATION & THE COMMUNITY - This group session will look at different styles of classes, support groups & other ways to care for both the people in your congregation & the people in your community facing tragic or long term loss or caregiving. From caring for the caregivers to support groups for grandparents raising grandchildren to caring for the grieving. **Rev. Theresa Booth** is currently associate pastor at First UMC New Braunfels. She works with their care team and staff to help provide support to our congregation and community through classes and special worship services. Prior to being a pastor she was a chaplain at Baylor Medical center in Dallas, where she lead several support groups. Stephen Ministry is a laity led, trained members of the church support team. Trained to provide one -to- one care for people experiencing difficult times. A passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need.

DREAMING GOD'S DREAMS & COUNTING THE COST , KEYNOTE- Luke 14:28-30 reminds us that while it is good & necessary to dream God's dreams, how often do we begin moving without knowing the outcome? Gil Rendel in his book *Doing the Math of Mission* asks us as leaders, "Do we look for the outcome before we begin? Do we know what a 'disciple'

looks like? Do we recognize a 'changed life' or a 'changed community' when we see it?" **Rev. Karen Horan** using this & other resources will challenge us to dream, plan, & expect fruitful ministries in the local church.

STRATEGICALLY SMALL CHURCH—the courage to see yourself as you are & be effective! We typically look back on "glory days" & wish for what was. How might those smaller churches who worship under 100 see themselves clearly & find the gifts & strengths they can offer in their communities to make disciples of Jesus Christ. **Rev. Karen Horan** is wife to Bill, mom to Tyler & Ashley & their spouses, & "nana" to her grandson Ace. She has spent almost all of her time in ministry in new churches learning how to reach new people. She was the founding pastor & served Gruene United Methodist for 11 years. Currently she is the Executive Director of the Mission Vitality Cent focusing on revitalizing congregations & starting new churches.

ERT Team on the ground—You Can Too!
- In this session, the ERT from FUMC Boerne will share experiences of being one of the first teams on the ground after Hurricane Harvey. They will offer personal insight on ERT **101** & share some of the pictures from their trips. **Bob Dibble** is the Hill Country District Disaster Response Coordinator. Bob & wife, Cheryl, have three wonderful children & 3 beautiful grandchildren. Bob is a retired from the US Army & as a USAA banker. He has been involved with regular mission trips to Uganda, Guatemala, Mexico & Eagle Pass TX. He serves on the board of directors for Mission: Border Hope (FUMC Eagle Pass), as well as being a part of the RTC Disaster Response Team, & as a Trustee at FUMC Boerne. Bob enjoys volunteering with Golfers Fore Other, a local outreach group that helps folks with repairs to their home. Bob will be accompanied by a group from FUMC Boerne & will be happy to answer any questions you might have.

REGISTRATION FORM – DEADLINE: JANUARY 11, 2018

Hill Country District Office
222 Sidney Baker South, Suite 528
Kerrville, TX 78028

– FAX to 830-896-6407 or register by phone at 830-896-6400.

**CHILDCARE
AVAILABLE**

**If you are in need
of childcare for the
event you must
register each child
with**

**Name & Age By
January 11, 2018**

CALL LIZ

AT DISTRICT OFFICE

*Lenten Disaster Used
Clothing Drive*

*Plan to be a part this
year.*

*Ash Wednesday, February 14-
Friday, March 23, 2018*

Church Name: _____ Address: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

COST PER PERSON \$12.00

Pre-registration with a check for all lunch reservations will ensure a speedy check-in.

NAMETAGS WILL BE PRINTED AHEAD OF TIME.

Persons registering at the door will be seated at the meal on a space-available basis, only.

To confirm a meal, contact the District Office by January 11, 2018.

Please make checks payable to “Kerrville District” - \$12.00 per person.

Have you heard about the Lenten Disaster Used Clothing Drive?

The partnership between the Hill Country District churches & the Seventh-day Adventist Disaster Services has worked extremely well since 2015. The Texas Division of Emergency Management classes use this collection as a good example of filling the pipeline before the need.

This year’s collection will be **Ash Wednesday, February 14 – Friday, March 23, 2018**. The Adventist truck will come to make the pickup as soon after that as they can schedule it. That will get the bags & piles out of our buildings for Easter.

Instructions are the same as previous years:

- ⇒ Notify the HCD Mission Team that you are participating.
- ⇒ Put out the word in your community that you’re collecting used clothing for survivors of any disasters that might occur in the coming year (2018).
- ⇒ Invite other churches (Methodist or not) in your community to join in.
- ⇒ Then call George Barnette (george@bnpr.com 713-252-2288) at the end about how big your pile is (pickup load or less, U-Haul load, or bigger). We’ll pass it on to the Adventist truck dispatcher who will plan the route & the schedule. When the truck arrives, help load the clothes, & you’re done. The Adventists will take the load back to their warehouse south of Ft. Worth, where volunteers will sort the clothes, sanitize (a step beyond just cleaning) & package the items by size & gender. Then when the need arises, they can send their delivery truck from the warehouse within hours to provide clothes to people affected by the disaster.

Why not wait & do a drive when the disaster occurs? Because the need for used clothing last only 24-48 hours. By the time we could mount a campaign, collect the clothes & deliver them to the disaster site, we would just be adding to the trash pile.

Our job is to fulfil Jesus’ guidance in Matthew to “clothe the naked.” (Matthew 25:31-46)